

MENTHÆ BRITANNICÆ:

A NEW BOTANICAL ARRANGEMENT

OF

THE BRITISH MINTS.

ILLUSTRATED WITH 24 COPPER-PLATES.

BY W. SOLE.

MENTHÆ BRITANNICÆ:

BEING A

NEW BOTANICAL ARRANGEMENT

OF ALL

THE BRITISH MINTS

HITHERTO DISCOVERED.

ILLUSTRATED WITH

TWENTY-FOUR COPPER-PLATES,

OF THE NATURAL SIZE,

Done from the Life by able Artists;

EXHIBITING A FIGURE OF EVERY DISTINCT MINT HEREIN TREATED OF,

Including all those enumerated by RAY and HUDSON;

TOGETHER WITH

SEVERAL NEW SPECIES HITHERTO UNNOTICED.

BY W. SOLE.

BATH, PRINTED BY R. CRUTTWELL;

AND SOLD BY MESSRS.

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HANWELL, OXFORD; AND HODSON, CAMBRIDGE.

1798.



PREFACE.

IT is well known and agreed to by Botanists, that the Mints still remain in great confusion and obscurity, owing chiefly to the scarcity of good and faithful figures; and it is wonderful, amidst all our modern improvements in Botany, that no new plates of this very useful and beautiful tribe have been given, at least none that are capital; yet such is the intricacy and sportiveness of this family, that it is impossible for a verbal description alone to define them without the aid of just and accurate figures to refer to. Perhaps the reason why we have so few of these, may be owing to the difficulty, labour, and tediousness, in the execution of them, their flowers being so numerous, and their component parts so minute.

FUSCHIUS's plates, altho' they are in general rude and Gothick, corresponding to the times in which he lived, are some of them very good, particularly his *M. Hortensis prima*, our *Sativa*; and his *M. Hortensis secunda*, our *Rotundifolia*. His other three are but indifferent, I might say bad.

JOHN BAUHINE's figures are on too small a scale to convey any proper idea of the plants, excepting only his *Mentastrium gravi odore*, which is indeed a master-piece of those times, and worthy of admiration; and perhaps not to be excelled by artists of the present day.

PREFACE.

MATHIOLUS also has a neat figure of *Calamintha aquatica*, our *Arvensis*; and LOBEL has another of the same, but from a different habitat, which has equal, if not greater merit. On the other hand, LOBEL's *Menthastrum* (evidently intended for our *Villosa*) is so ambiguous, that some authors have made it their *Menthastrum longifolium*, and some again their *Menthastrum rotundifolium*.

RAY, in his *Cat. Plant.* p. 198, has the following stricture on this figure, quoting it from GERARD and PARKINSON, (which are both copies of LOBEL) to his *Menthastrum longifolium*:—"Figuræ enim nullo modo conveniunt;"—and then immediately after quotes the same figures to his *Menthastrum rotundifolium* with an interrogation, being very doubtful which they are meant for. And what is rather pleasant, HILL has copied it in his plates with this plain English title—"HORSE-MINT;" forgetting to tell us whether long-leaved or round-leaved horse-mint.* However, it is plain that it is meant for the long-leaved, by the deep saw-teeth of the leaves; for their *Menthastrum rotundifolium* (*Sylv. nost.*) is crenated rather than ferrated.

FUSCHIUS's figure, copied by J. BAUHINE, is as bad, if not worse, than LOBEL's. MORRISON's figure is something better, but Mrs. BLACKWELL's is very indifferent.

* I would not be understood as implying any censure on HILL, as he was in my opinion ^{one of} the best English Botanists of his time, and, had he applied himself to the subject, was well qualified to have explained it; but as he thought it perhaps an object which was not likely to attract notice, he followed the consideration of his *Bardana*, which eventually proved most productive. He was certainly a great genius, but his imagination was diverted by following too many pursuits.

Added to the inaccuracy of the plates now extant, another cause contributes no small matter to the present confusion, that is, the deficiency in number; LINNÆUS having allowed us but ten mints, whereas our immortal RAY, after having described no less than sixteen, with all that pleasant candour so peculiar to him, finishes the subject with this remark—" *Mentharum valde ferax est Anglia nostra, nam præter species de novo*
" hic additas, quatuor aliæ peculiaribus nominibus recensentur a MERRETTO
" in Pin. et plures præter has tum a D. BUDDLE, tum a D. RAND observatæ
" sunt. Sed cum de iis nobis nondum satis constet, ulteriori eas observationi
" relinquere necesse habuimus." This is a sufficient proof that RAY thought the field of English mints far from being exhausted.

TOURNEFORT seems to have found all RAY's plants in France, and describes them with little or no variation.

Sir JOHN HILL, in his *B. H.* has only copied RAY, and thrown no new light on the subject. Our late eminent English botanist, Mr. HUDSON, whose loss will be long regretted, appears to have been well acquainted with all RAY's plants; and, observing that LINNÆUS had totally unnoticed many of them, and unwilling to have them left in obscurity, has, in his second edition, introduced them as varieties, some in one place, and some in another. The attempt was certainly laudable, but it was not successful, having tended only to increase the entanglement.

Upon the whole, then, it is very obvious to all who are any ways conversant with the subject, that an entire new set of good plates of the mints is much wanted; nor, indeed, can any fresh illustration of them be given
 without;

without; and, as I have always been of opinion that good plates are injured by *colouring*, I have endeavoured to procure such plates as need no colouring; my intention in this essay being not only to give such plates as will bear future references, but, at the same time, to harmonize all the present discordant quotations that so often occur both in LINNÆUS and HUDSON, and to adduce every quotation in its right place, that the tyro may be no longer puzzled by contradictions; but, on the contrary, be enabled to find out his plant quick and to a certainty; for which reason I have, in all the abstruser mints, given a discriminating characteristick, to facilitate his research, and to prevent his remaining in doubt.

I have nothing to add, but that I wish this humble attempt to illustrate the mints, may stimulate some abler Botanist to pursue the subject, and render it more compleat. Having no coadjutor to assist me, it is probable there may be many errors and mistakes; and I shall be very thankful for any communications that may be made to me, pointing them out; that, in case a future edition should be called for, I may be enabled to make it more perfect; unless (as I hinted above) an abler hand should take up the subject.

W. S.

MENTHÆ BRITANNICÆ.

SERIES PRIMA.

MENTHÆ SPICATÆ.

1. *Mentha villosa* prima.
2. ————— *secunda*.
3. ————— *fylvestris*.
4. ————— *rotundi folia*.
5. ————— *viridis*.
6. ————— *palustris*.
7. ————— *piperita officinalis*.
8. ————— *piperita sylvestris*.

To render the Mints less difficult to find out, Linnæus has very judiciously divided them into three series or fortments, viz.

1. SPIKED MINTS.
2. ROUND-HEADED MINTS.
3. WHIRLED MINTS.

BRITISH MINTS.

SERIES THE FIRST.

SPIKED MINTS:

Consisting of such Mints as produce their flowers in long slender spikes at the tops of the stalks and branches. This series contains the following eight Mints:

1. Long-leaved Horse-Mint.
2. Common Horse-Mint.
3. Strong-scented Mint.
4. Round-leaved Mint.
5. Spear-Mint.
6. Marsh-Mint.
7. True Pepper-Mint.
8. Wild Pepper-Mint.

M. Longifolia F. S. Pl. 1.



Mentha Villosa. 1^{ma} *Long leaved Horse Mint*.

1. MENTHA VILLOSA PRIMA.

[Long-leaved Horfe-Mint.]

Mentha spicis oblongis, bracteatis, foliis sessilibus lanceolatis serratis
 acutis tomentosis incanis, venulis reticulatis, staminibus corolla brevioribus; odore hircino. *Disc. bracteis longis.*

Menthastrum. *Fusch. p. 295, ico.*

Menthastrum spicatum folio longiore candicante. *J. B. iii. p. 222. ico. Fusch.*

Ray. Syn. 234. No. v.

Ray. Hist. Pl. i. p. 532.

Blackstone Spec. Bot. p. 52.

Deering Cat. Not. p. 143.

Mentha sylvestris longiore folio. *C. B. Pin. 227.*

Mor. H. O. i. p. 368. ico.

Map. Pl. Alsat. p. 193.

Mentha. xvii *Tourn. Instit.*

Mentha floribus pallidis folio longo candicante. *Hil. B. H. 353.*

Mentha sylvestris. *Lin. Sp. Pl. p. 804. (folia albida.)*

Habitat in palustribus et fossis, sed rarius.

Explanation of the small Figures at the bottom of the Plates.

- a* The Blossom, Calix, and Style, of their natural size.
- b* The same magnified.
- c* The Calix magnified.
- d* The Corolla magnified and laid open, to display the length of the Stamens.
- e* A Calix magnified and laid open, to exhibit the four naked seeds at the bottom of it.

I. LONG-LEAVED HORSE-MINT.

THIS is a tall elegant plant, usually growing four feet or more in height; its leaves are long, acuminate, serrated and sessile, embracing the stalk, they are woolly and hoary on the under side, and green and hairy on the upper side; the veins of the leaves form a beautiful net-work, equally visible on both sides. The stalks are quadrangular, hoary, and upright, terminating in neat slender spikes of flowers, composed of small bundles, with long, narrow, conspicuous, bracteal leaves under each bundle. The flowers are very small for the size of the plant, and are of a beautiful pale lilac colour. The stamens are always shorter than the flower, and cannot be seen but when the blossom is quite expanded.* It blossoms the last week in July, and the whole plant has a disagreeable goatish minty smell.

It is met with in ditches under hedges, and about mill-dams, and in obsolete water-courses, but is not common. I observed it in a lane going from Littlebury to Lord Howard's on the left hand, and in a mill-dam at Matlock; and the wild specimen from which this plate was done, I found in a close at Box, Wilts, called Box-Lays.

* Linnæus and Haller both make it a leading feature in this plant, that the stamens are longer than the flower; but as I have never yet found it so, either in its wild or cultivated state, I durst not adopt either of their descriptions.



Mentha Villosa 2^{da}

commⁿ Horse Mint

2. MENTHA VILLOSA SECUNDA.

Mentha spica oblonga, foliis sessilibus, ovato-lanceolatis acutis villosis.

Hud. Flo. An. p. 259.

Quibus notis addi potest, staminibus corolla brevioribus.

Menthastrum. Math. p. 527. ico.

Menthastrum. Lobel. icon. p. 509.

Menthastrum. Ger. em. p. 684. icone Lob.

Menthastrum hortense. Park. p. 33. ico. Lob.

Mentha sylvestris longioribus nigrioribus et minus incanis. C. B. Pin. p. 127.

Mentha sylvestris candicans odore sativi. Doody.

Mentha spicata. ii, iii R. Syn. p. 233, 234.

Mentha. xv Tourn. Inst.

Menthastrum. Blackwell H. p. 292. ico.

Mentha. x, xi Hill, B. H. p. 354, 355.

Disc. Spicis densioribus obsolete bracteatis, foliis superne glabrioribus, inferne villosis; caule rubescente, odore M. viridis.

Habitat in locis uliginosis.

3. COMMON HORSE-MINT.

THIS Mint grows about three feet in height, the stalks are quadrangular, hairy, and green, turning reddish as the summer advances; they are moderately branched, which, as well as the stalks, all terminate in oblong thick-set spikes of flowers, of a white palish-red colour; the stamens of which are always shorter than the blossom. The leaves are sessile, oblong, and pointed, deeply serrated round the edges, and are of a blackish-green colour on the upper side, and hoary and villose underneath; they are deeply furrowed or wrinkled, something like green sage. The whole plant smells much like spear-mint.

This plant differs from the foregoing, in its leaves not being near so hoary, long, and acuminate; in its spikes being shorter and more dense, inasmuch, that the bractea appear like hairs between the flowers, not long and foliaceous as in that, and does not blossom before the middle of August; yet it is probably only a variety of the foregoing: but as it has, after the cultivation of it for more than twenty years in my garden, maintained its distinctions, I thought it best to give a figure of it; being of opinion, that where varieties are permanent, it is better to describe them apart, than to crowd them in with a β . γ . &c. For it is very confusing to a tyro in particular, to see in the same plant one author describing it with long acuminate hoary leaves, smelling like a goat, &c.; and another saying, the leaves are broad and smooth; and a third saying, it smells finely of spear-mint:—he of course becomes puzzled, and gives the matter up. I have moreover the sanction of Ray, Tournefort, and Hill, who have all acted as precedents in the same manner.

This variety is much more common than the foregoing, being to be met with in most home-closes, about farmers' bartons, and such places. I observed it by the water-side at Bottisham-Load mill, Cambridgeshire, and in a home-close of an inn at Hillington, Middlesex, and frequently under hedges in Hertfordshire.

This and the preceding both possess similar qualities to the *M. sylvestris*, and have always been promiscuously used for that; but the powers of the *sylvestris* being much more eminent, it ought always to be preferred, whenever it can be procured.



Mentha Sylvestris.

Strong Scented Mint.

3. MENTHA SYLVESTRIS.

Mentha spicis oblongis, foliis rugosis sessilibus lanuginosis crenato-dentatis, inferioribus oblongis obtusis, superioribus rotundatis, venulis reticulatis, staminibus corolla longioribus.

Mentha sylvestris prima rotundiore folio. C. B. Pin. p. 227.

Map. Alsat. p. 193.

Tourn. Inst. No. i.

Menthastrum folio rugoso rotundiore, spontaneum, flore spicato, odore gravi.

J. B. Hist. iii. p. 219. cum ico. præstantissima.

R. Syn. p. 234.

Deer. Cat. Not. p. 144.

Blacks. Sp. Bot. p. 53.

Hill. B. H. p. 353.

Menthastrum valde ramosum flore violaceo rubro. Mer. Pin. p. 77.

Menthastrum rotundifolium minus. Park. p. 34.

Menthastrum. No. ix. Mor. H. Ox. p. 368.

Mentha rotundifolia. Lin. Sp. P. p. 805.

Hud. F. A. p. 251.

Menthastrum officinale. Mat. Med. Antiq.

Habitat in aggeribus et ruderatis.

Nascitur in locis uliginosis.

♂ *Menthastrum niveum anglicum. Lobel. icon. p. 510.*

Ger. em. p. 684. ico. Lob.

Menthastrum spicatum, folio crispo, colore partim albo, partim cinereo, vel virente. J. B. iij. p. 219.

Mentha spicata folio variegato. C. B. Pin. p. 227.

Tourn. Inst. No. xii.

3. STRONG-SCENTED MINT.

THIS plant grows from two feet and half to three feet in height; its stalks are quadrangular, hairy, upright, and very much branched with flowering-sprigs elegantly disposed, each sprig generally terminating in three (and sometimes more) beautiful slender spikes, of whitish-red flowers, which are so expanded that the stamens with their little red anthers or chives are always in sight, and are longer than the flower; the leaves are wrinkled and downy underneath, and are sleeker and of a dark green above, the veins are neatly reticulated, and obvious on both sides; the lower leaves are oblong and blunt, the upper leaves are roundish; they are sessile, and are crenated rather than dentated. It has a very strong volatile mixed smell of volatile salt of amber, camphor, and mint.

This is the true *Menthastrum*, or wild Horse-Mint of the shops.

It is now and then found spontaneous in muddy places in high moors; for instance, on a common at Elsmoor, Shropshire, but it is very rare: yet as an honourable relict of our venerable Gothick ruins, it is very common; as in a close called the Abbey-Warren, at Hinton-Abbey in Somerset; in the environs of Abbey-Tintern, S. Wales; at Ragland-Castle, ditto; in a close called the Abbots-Garden, at Glastonbury-Abbey; in a high meadow near Berkeley-Castle; at Wenloek-Abbey, Salop; at the ruins of an old abbey, or castle, (I forget which) near the strand at Hollywell; and observed by Mr. Blackstone, in Harefield church-yard, and by Dr. Deering, in the neighbourhood of Nottingham-Castle.

These habitats sufficiently evince, that the powers of this plant were well understood by the Monks, who were in their days the principal physicians; and this knowledge (as soon as literature began to revive in Europe) was easily acquired from the works of the Arabian physicians, particularly Rhazes, who made great use of this plant. Be this as it may, it certainly is a plant of great virtue, and deserves to be better known than it is at present, being an excellent cephalic, antihysterical, ecphractic, and cardiac simple. I have found it of great use in cases of epilepsy, and chlorosis; the latter case it most commonly cures in two or three months. I cannot say it has ever cured epilepsy, but it wonderfully refreshes the brain, restores the memory, and takes off the dull stupid languor occasioned by those fits.

My mode of giving it is this:—Take six drachms of fine powder, made from the green leaves and flower spikes, hastily dried, and with a sufficient quantity of syrup of orange-peel make an electuary; the quantity of a nutmeg to be taken morning, noon, and night, washing it down with a wine-glass of tea made with the same green herb in summer, and of the dried herb in winter. In all cases before I enter upon the use of it, I premise an emetic of Ipecacuanha powder, and a scruple of *Pil. Rufi*, in four pills, to be taken after the emetic the same night.



Mentha Rotundifolia.

Round Leaved Mint.

4. MENTHA ROTUNDIFOLIA.

Mentha spicis oblongis densis, bracteis longis filiformibus, floribus rubris, foliis sessilibus subrotundis rugosis dentatis villosis, nervis transversis, venulis reticulatis, staminibus corolla æqualibus, caule erecto hirsuto, Menthæ viridis odore.

Mentha hortensis. ii *Fusch. ico. bon.*

Mentastrum spicatum cultum, folio rotundiore rugoso. *J. B. Hist. iii. p. 218.*

Mentha rotundifolia spicata altera. *C. B. Pin. p. 227.*

Sisymbrium hortense. *Math. p. 378. ico. Fusch.*

Sisymbria Mentha agrestis. *Lob. icon. p. 508. ico. Fusch.*

Mentha spicata altera. *Ger. em. p. 681. ico. Fusch.*

Mentha sylvestris rotundiore folio, purpureo flore. *Tourn. Inst. No. ii.*

Reperitur in aquosis in Cantio et Essexia, sed rarius.

Augusto floret.

4. ROUND-LEAVED MINT.

THIS wild Mint grows to the height of three feet and upwards; its stalk is quadrangular, large, very hairy, upright, and not much branched, terminating in very large thickset spikes of flowers of a bright-red colour; the bracteals are like hairs, and project so much above the flowers as to give the spike a strong resemblance of a fox's tail.

The leaves are sessile, almost round, and deeply serrated; they are of a dark-green colour, wrinkled, and hairy; the nerves of the leaves run transversely, and the veins are reticulated; the stamens with their beautiful red anthers, being equal to the blossom in length, appear in sight when the flower expands.

The smell of this plant resembles that of spear-mint, but is not so fragrant.

I believe this plant is very rare, as I have never yet met with it spontaneous. It was given me eighteen years ago by that very eminent botanist, W. Aiton, esq; (late botanic gardener to his Majesty) who, at the same time, informed me, that it had been sent to him by a correspondent who had found it both in Kent and Essex.

It flowers in August.



Mentha Viridis.

Spear Mint.

Bath, Pub. by W. Sole. 1797.

5. MENTHA VIRIDIS.

Mentha spicis oblongis, foliis lanceolatis nudis ferratis sessilibus, stamini-
bus corolla longioribus. *Lin. Sp. Pl. p. 804.*

Mentha spicis folitariis interruptis, foliis lanceolatis ferratis sessilibus.

Hort. Clif. p. 306.

Mentha prima. *Math. p. 506. ico.*

Mentha hortensis. *iii Fusch. p. 290. ico.*

Mentha spicata, folio longo, acuto, glabro, nigriore.

J. B. Hist. iii. p. 220. ico.

Mentha romana officinarum, five præstantior angustifolia. *Lobel. icon. p. 507.*

Mentha romana. *Ger. em. p. 680. ico. Lob.*

Mentha angustifolia spicata. *C. B. Pin. p. 227.*

R. Hist. Pl. tom. i. p. 532.

Tourn. Inst. M. xiii.

Mor. H. O. sect. xi. tab. vi. f. 1.

Lewis. Mat. Med.

Mentha spicata vulgaris. *Hill. B. H. p. 353.*

Mentha fativa. *Blackwell. H. p. 290. ico.*

Mentha viridis. *Hud. F. A. p. 250.*

*Lterioribus aliam, aliam angustissimis et longissimis foliis in hortis observavi-
mus. C. B.*

Habitat in aquosis et ad ripas fluviorum. *fluviorum*

Augusto floret.

5. SPEAR-MINT.

THIS plant grows about three feet in height; its stalk is quadrangular, upright, smooth, and of a bright green colour, being neatly branched with upright sprigs, which terminate in elegant long spikes of flowers, which are of a bright-red colour, dotted here and there with white specks in the inside; the stamens, tipped with beautiful red knobs, are longer than the blossom.

The leaves are long, narrow, acuminate, and deeply serrated, and fitting on the stalk; they are of a grass-green colour, and perfectly smooth on both sides; the nerves are white, and the veins obscurely reticulated; the whole plant has a most fragrant and refreshing smell. Its red blossoms, smooth leaves, and eminent stamens, sufficiently distinguish it from the villosa's.

Ray and Hill, neither of them finding it wild, treat it as an exotic; but our great Master, Linnæus, boldly says, *habitat in Anglia*; and Hudson has quoted several habitats in his ingenious work *Flo. Ang.* and I have found it spontaneous in a common between Glastonbury and Wells; and the plant which produced the specimen for this plate, I brought home ten years ago from a wild habitat in the meadows four miles out of Bath, where it flourishes to this day in an old water-grip, intermixed with *M. aquatica*, &c.

It also grows in various places by the side of the Avon between Bath and Kellston.—It flowers in August.

The virtue of this excellent plant, as a cephalic, stomachic, and febrifuge, are so well established by the concurrent testimony of many ages, as to maintain its consequence and repute even at this time, when herbs in general are so unfortunately, and, I may say, unjustly repudiated, that it needs not to be enlarged on here.



Mentha Palustris

Marsh Mint.

6. MENTHA PALUSTRIS.

Mentha spicis oblongis interruptis, foliis latis ovatis acutis, ferratis, hirsutis, inferioribus oblongis; nervis rubescentibus, staminibus corolla brevioribus; caule erecto hirsuto; odore hircino.

Mentha palustris folio oblongo. *C. B. Pin. p. 228.*

Mor. H. Ox. p. 369. sect. xi. tab. vii. f. 4.

Menthastrum aquatici genus hirsutum spica latiora.

J. B. Hist. iii. p. 222. ico.

R. Syn. p. 234.

Calamintha iii. Diascoridis Menthastrifolia aquatica hirsuta.

Lob. icon. p. 510.

Menthastrum minus. *Ger. em. p. 685. ico. Lob.*

Mentha xviii. *Tourn. Inst.*

Mentha foliis cinereis latioribus, spica crassa. *Hill. B. H. p. 353. M. xii.*

Mentha sylvestris, β . *Hud. F. A. p. 251.*

Habitat in fossis et paludibus.

Floret in Septembri.

6. MARSH MINT.

THIS Mint grows about three feet in height; its stalk is quadrangular, hairy, upright, and but little branched; of a brownish red colour, terminating in three broad spikes of flowers of a pleasant red colour; the upright spike being much larger than the collateral ones; the stamens are shorter than the blossom, and hid from view.

The leaves stand on footstalks; they are broad, hairy, serrated, and pointed, and are of a greyish colour; the lower leaves are oblong, but from the middle of the stalk upwards they are ovate.

The whole plant has a goatish-minty smell.

It grows in old ditches at Glastonbury, Wedmore, Birtle, and King's-Sedge moors, Somerset, plentifully.

It does not blow until the beginning of September, and sometimes later.



Mentha Piperita
Officinalis.

True Pepper Mint.

7. MENTHA PIPERITA OFFICINALIS.

Mentha spicis oblongis interruptis, foliis lanceolatis glabrioribus argutè ferratis petiolatis, staminibus corolla æquantibus caule erecto fusco, odore piperis gratissimo.

Mentha saxifraga angustiore folio, spicato, sapore acri fervido.

Pluk. Alm. p. 129.

Mentha piperata acuta. *Petiv. H. B. tab. xiii. f. 10.*

Pepper-Mint with acuminate leaves. *Lewis. Mat. Med.*

Mentha piperitis. *Blackwell. H. p. 291. ico.*

Disc. *Floribus spicatis foliis lanceolatis.*

Nascitur in locis udis et aquosis.

Augusto floret.

☞ Menth. pip. fylv. Vide Tab. xxiv.

7. TRUE PEPPER-MINT.

THIS plant grows from three feet to three and a half in height; its stalks are square, firm, upright, not much branched, and of a brownish red colour, terminating in beautiful long spikes of pale-red flowers; the three or four lowermost whirles are interrupted, or somewhat distant, in the same manner as in the spear-mint; the stamens are just equal to the blossom, and in sight when that is expanded. The leaves are long, narrow, acuminate, sharply serrated, standing on footstalks, and are of a very dark-green colour; and when viewed on the under side through a common pocket magnifying-glass, in the sun or by candle-light, innumerable bright silver spangles are displayed all over the surface, which perhaps is its essential oil. All the Mints exhibit something of this kind, but none in so eminent a degree as this does. The calix is still fuller of those spangles than the leaves. I conclude it is from these spangles or gems, (whether they be essential salt, or essential oil of the plant, let better judges determine) that it derives its virtues in cases of stone and gravel; for which purposes, in Plukenet's time, it was in so high esteem as to gain the title of *SAXIFRAGA*; and its singular efficacy as a carminative is well known in all families.

This plant grows spontaneously in a swampy place on Lansdown called the Wells, it being the spring-head of Locks-brook. It is also found by the side of the Avon in Newton-Mead.

The whole plant has a very grateful poignant taste, and smell of pepper.

It blows in the middle of August.

MENTHÆ BRITANNICÆ.

SERIES SECUNDA.

MENTHÆ CAPITATÆ, five SISYMBRIA.

1. *Mentha piperita vulgaris.*
2. ——— *odorata.*
3. ——— *aquatica minor.*
4. ——— *aquatica major.*

BRITISH MINTS.

SERIES THE SECOND.

ROUND-HEADED or WATER MINTS.

Consisting of such Mints as produce their flowers in round heads at the tops of the stalks and branches. This series contains the following four Mints:

1. Common Pepper-Mint.
2. Burgamot-Mint.
3. Lesser Water-Mint.
4. Great Water-Mint, and its varieties.



M: Piperita Vulgaris

Common Pepper-Mint.

8. MENTHA PIPERITA VULGARIS.

Mentha spicis capitatis, foliis ovatis ferratis petiolatis, staminibus corolla brevioribus. *Lin. Sp. P. p. 805.*

Mentha piperita. *Hud. F. A. p. 251.*

Mentha spicis brevioribus et habitioribus, foliis Menthæ fuscæ, sapore fervido piperis. *Ray. Syn. p. 234.*

Mentha piperata obtusa. *Pet. H. Br. tab. xiii. fig. 11.*

Hill. B. H. p. 353.

Warner. Pl. Woodf. p. 98.

In aquosis et scrobibus humentibus reperitur.

Septembri floret.

8. COMMON PEPPER-MINT.

The stalk of this plant is square, wreathed, or bending; it is of a reddish-brown colour, a little hairy, much branched, and grows two feet and a half in height; the branches, as well as the main stalk, terminate in oblong, and very often, round heads of flowers, which are of a beautiful purplish-red colour: the collateral branches bending and wreathing in perfect unison with the main stalk, give the plant a very animated and graceful mein, exhibiting at first glance a total contrast to the foregoing. The leaves stand on short foot-stalks; they are ovate, serrated, and slightly hairy; the stamens are shorter than the blossoms; the calix is sprinkled with the same sort of spangles as that of the foregoing, but the leaves are not so loaded with them as the leaves of the former. The whole plant has a very agreeable smell and flavour of pepper and mint, but is not so piquant as the foregoing; it nevertheless make a very pleasant pepper-mint water when distilled green; but the former is the right plant for drying for the use of the shops.

I have found it spontaneous in various watery places about Bath, and between Wells and Glastonbury, also in Chittern-bottom, Wilts.

It does not blow until the middle of September in general.

Mr. Ray's Artist, who perhaps lived at a distance, and after drawing the first lines of this plant, I suppose took it home with him to finish by memory at leisure, (which is too often the case) by which means he has made a centaur of it, having placed the head of common water-mint on the shoulders of the spiked pepper-mint; the leaves of which are done to admiration, and consequently in Mr. Ray's presence, who, it is universally known, was exceedingly accurate.

Barrellieri's Artist has committed the same blunder of putting styles for stamens, and vice versa, &c. for which reason that neat collection of Spanish and Italian plants is rendered of no value now. Indeed there is this to be said for both, that the sexual system was not known at that time, of course the drawing-masters were not so attentive to the number of stamens and styles as the present system requires.



Mentha Odorata

Burgamot Mint.

9. MENTHA ODORATA.

Mentha floribus capitatis, foliis ovatis ferratis glabrioribus petiolatis, nervis ramosis rubris, caule rubro glabriore, staminibus corolla brevioribus; odore gratissimo.

Mentha balsamita vel latifolia odorata, diutissime durat odor ejus suavissimus. *Mer. Pin. p. 77.*

Mentha sisymbrium dicta hirsuta, glomerulis ac foliis minoribus ac rotundioribus, odor valde gratus et aromaticus mala aurantia plane æmulans. *R. Syn. p. 233. tab. x. fig. 1.*

Mentha odorata flore cinericeo. *R. Syn. Pl. dub.*

Mentha rotundifolia spicata altera. *Mor. H. O. sect. xi. tab. vi. fig. 3.*

Mentha aquatica hirsuta foliis minoribus. *Hill. B. H. p. 352.*

Mentha aquatica, γ . *Hud. F. A. p. 252.*

Habitat in paludibus et aquosis, sed rarius.

Sub finem Julii floret.

9. BERGAMOT MINT.

THE stalk of this Mint is quadrangular, almost smooth, of a mahogany colour, much branched, and grows about two feet high, terminating in a large round head of flowers, and two collateral heads at the joint below it; the collateral branches also all terminate in a head of flowers, which are of a light red colour; the leaves stand on short footstalks, they are concave, ovate, and ferrated; the nerves and very often the under sides of the leaves are red; the stamens are shorter than the blossoms: the whole plant has a most agreeable smell of Bergamot. The heads are not strictly globular, but are a little depressed at the tops: this hint corresponds in every thing to Linnæus's *aquatica*, but in the stamens being shorter than the blossom. The late Mrs. Walmfley, of Bath, when I shewed her this Mint as a curiosity in the year 1772, informed me that it was very common by river-sides and brooks in Cheshire, particularly in the neighbourhood of her father's house, (Aston-house) and that it was well known there by the name of Water-Mint. I found my plant in a small brook or ditch near Capel-Carey, between Llandrooff and Llanberrys, North-Wales.

Morrison has thrown great light on this plant by giving us two figures of it, one smooth like his and mine, and one hairy like Ray's: it is well known that the difference of soil constitutes this difference. Both Morrison and Ray's figures exhibit the stamens longer than the blossoms; but as neither of them mention any thing of this, I am inclined to think it is owing to an error of the artist, who has drawn stamens for styles, as in Ray's pepper-mint; and this appears still more likely to be the case, as in looking wistly into them we find but one stamen in each blossom, which ought to contain four, with a single bifid style in the midst of them, of which there is no appearance.



Mentha aquatica minor *small Water Mint.*

10. MENTHA AQUATICA MINOR.

Mentha floribus capitatis, foliis ovatis ferratis subsessilibus pubescentibus
staminibus corolla longioribus. *Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 392, No. xv.*

Mentha aquatica, five Sifymbrium hirsutius. *J. B. Hist. iii. p. 224. ico.*

Mor. H. O. iii. p. 370.

Mentha rotundifolia palustris minor five flore globofo. *C. B. Pin. p. 228.*

Sifymbrium hirsutum. *R. Syn. p. 233.*

Mentha aquatica folio brevi hirsuto. *Hill. B. H. p. 352.*

Mentha aquatica, β . *Hud. F. A. p. 252.*

Salis succini odore.

Habitat in locis uliginosis et aquosis.

Sub finem Julii floret.

10. LESSER WATER-MINT.

THIS plant grows about a foot and a half in height; its stalk is square, upright, hairy, and much branched, terminating in a superb round head of flowers, with two collateral ones at the joint immediately under it; the collateral branches also terminate in a head of flowers, but they are smaller than those of the main stalk; the flowers are of a beautiful vivid red colour, with the stamens longer than the blossom. The leaves are rigid, a little crisped or curled, the lower ones standing on short foot-stalks, but the upper ones are sessile; they are of a dark green above and almost smooth, but pale and hairy underneath; their shape is partly ovate and partly cordate; they are serrated and short-pointed, and their nerves are particularly strong and harsh.

This plant, when in bloom, is of singular beauty, and worthy of admiration: it has a strong volatile smell of salt of amber, and of course is an excellent antihysterick and cephalick.

I have rejected the term *hirsuta*, because in Somersetshire, Wiltshire, and in Wales, it is a great deal smoother than the *aquatica major*, although in Hornsey-lane near London, and some other situations, I have observed it to be more hairy, but it is by no means constantly so.

It grows frequently in swamps in elevated situations, such as the sides of our downs, Mendip-hills, &c.

It flowers towards the end of July.



M: Aquatica major

great Water Mint.

T. Robins, Del.

Bath, Pub. by W. Sole. 1797

Hibbert, Sc.

II. MENTHA AQUATICA MAJOR.

Mentha floribus capitatis, foliis ovatis ferratis petiolatis, staminibus corolla longioribus. *Lin. Flo. Suec. ed. 2. p. 202.*

Mentha aquatica. *Hud. F. A. p. 252.*

Sisymbrium sylvestre. *Math. p. 378. ico.*

Mentha aquatica, five Sisymbrium. *J. B. H. iii. p. 223. ico.*

Lobel. ico. p. 509.

Ger. em. p. 684. ico. Lob.

R. Syn. p. 233.

Blackwell. H. t. 32.

Lewis. Mat. Med.

Mentha rotundifolia palustris, feu aquatica major. *C. B. Pin. p. 227.*

Mor. H. O. §. xi. tab. 7. f. 6.

Map. Al. p. 193.

Threlkeld. Syn. Hibern.

Mentha aquatica rubra. *Park. p. 1243.*

Mentha aquatica folio brevi lato. *Hill. B. H. p. 352.*

Mentha foliis ovato-lanceolatis ferratis, verticillis paucissimis terminante maximo. *Hal. No. ccxxv.*

Mentha viii. *Tourn. Inst.*

Odore fuliginoso.

Habitat in aquosis et ad rivulos.

Augusto floret.

Foliis aliquando majoribus, aliquando minoribus, aliquando tota rubens, aliquando magis minusque hirsutis. *J. B.*

Odor paludosus, acris planta, aromatica, amara est, Haller.

II. GREAT WATER-MINT.

THIS plant grows from three to five feet in height; its stalk is square, deeply furrowed or fulcated, green, hairy, and terminates in one great oblong head of flowers, below which there are usually two clusters of flowers, and often a third set standing on footstalks, issuing from the bosoms of the leaves; they are of a light purple colour, divided into four segments; the upper segment, as in all the mints, being bifid or cleft, but in this most eminently so; the stamens are taller than the blossom; the leaves stand on longish footstalks, and are (as in all its congeners the *Sisymbria*) round and red underneath until the latter end of May, when they begin to assume their proper shape, and by degrees become pointed, green, hairy, broad, ovate, elliptical, and oblong; for nature sports much in the habit of this plant according to the variety of soils and situations; for instance, in the brooks at Twiford, it is five feet high, with broad elliptical leaves almost smooth; in our ditches and rivulets about Bath it is exceedingly hairy, with ovate leaves, and does not exceed three feet in height; on our downs again it is procumbent, hoary, and its leaves acuminate; but its peculiar smell points out the plant in all its various situations, which is exactly that of a ropy chimney in a wet summer, where wood fires have been kept in winter-time. Tea made of its green leaves is excellent in all nervous and hysterick cases, and wherever wood-foot and Ruffia castor are useful, the tea of this plant is not only a fine auxiliary, but in cases of need an excellent substitute: I speak this from my own experience.

Our ancestors, from long before the time of Dr. Turner to the middle of this present century, held it deservedly in high estimation as a nervous medicine, and made great use of it.

Tournefort, in his excellent Institutes, observes, that there is a volatile oily salt in this plant, which is very aromack, stomachick, and diuretick, and that the leaves give out their virtue being made into tea.

It is a very common plant growing in watery places all over England. It flowers in August.

MENTHÆ BRITANNICÆ.

SERIES TERTIA.

MENTHÆ VERTICILLATÆ.

- 12. *Mentha arvensis.*
- 13. ——— *præcox.*
- 14. ——— *agrestis.*
- 15. ——— *gentilis.*
- 16. ——— *gracilis.*
- 17. ——— *pratensis.*
- 18. ——— *rubra.*
- 19. ——— *variegata.*
- 20. ——— *rivalis.*
- 21. ——— *fativa.*
- 22. ——— *paludosa.*
- 23. ——— *Pulegium.*

BRITISH MINTS.

SERIES THE THIRD.

WHIRLED MINTS.

Consisting of such Mints as produce their flowers in whirls round the stalks in the bosom of the leaves, and contains the eleven following Mints:

12. Corn Mint.
13. Early-flowering Mint.
14. Field Mint.
15. Cardiac Mint.
16. Slender Mint.
17. Meadow Mint.
18. Common red Mint.
19. Variegated or Window Mint.
20. Brook Mint.
21. Tall red Mint, or old Garden Mint.
22. Fen Mint.
23. Penny-Royal.



Mentha arvensis

corn Mint.

12. MENTHA ARVENSIS.

- Mentha floribus verticillatis, foliis ovatis acutis ferratis, staminibus corollam æquantibus. *Lin. Sp. p.* 806.
- Calamintha aquatica. *Math. p.* 529. *ico. nitid.*
- Mentha arvensis verticillata hirsuta. *J. B. H. iii. p.* 217. *ico.*
Map. Al. p. 193.
- Calamintha arvensis verticillata. *C. B. Pin. p.* 229.
Park. p. 36. *ico. Lob.*
- Calamintha aquatica Belgarum et Math. *Lob. icon. p.* 505.
Ger. em. p. 684. *ico. Lob.*
- Mentha seu Calamintha aquatica. *R. Syn. p.* 232. *No. i.*
- Mentha aquatica exigua. *R. Syn. p.* 232. *No. ii.*
- Mentha No. x. *Tourn. Inst.*
- Mentha arvensis verticillata procumbens.
Mor. H. O. iii. p. 369. *sect. xi. tab. 7. fig. 5.*
- Mentha aquatica hirsuta verticillata. *Hill. B. H. p.* 351. *ico. Lob.*
- Mentha floribus verticillatis hirsutis, foliis ovato-lanceolatis, verticillis tomentosis, odore mihi detestabili subdulci. *Hal. Helv. No. ccxxiii.*
- Mentha floribus verticillatis, caulibus diffusis, foliis petiolatis ovatis ferratis villosis. *Hud. F. A. p.* 253.
- β. Mentha arvensis erecta angustifolia, caule rubescente, odore grato.
 Calaminta aquatica. *Blackwell. H. tab.* 131.
- γ. Mentha arvensis major, verticillis et floribus amplis, foliis latioribus, staminibus corolla longioribus odore grato.
- Habitat in arvis.*
- β. — in aquosis arenosis.
- γ. — in pratis humidis.

Julio florent.

12. CORN MINT.

THIS Mint does not much exceed one foot in height; its stalk is square, pale, very hairy, and quite overloaded with horizontal branches, which weigh it down and prevent its being upright; the leaves stand on short footstalks; they are hairy, ovate, serrated, and of a pale-green colour.

The whirls stand at the joints in the bosoms of the leaves, and closely embrace the stalk all round; the flowers are of a pleasant red colour; the stamens generally shorter than the blossom; the calix or cup is quite woolly.

This plant has a strong fullsome mixed smell of mellow apples and gingerbread, by which it may be always known in all situations. Some authors have puzzled themselves and their readers by making J. Bauhin's figure of *arvensis*, a distinct plant from Lobel's *belgarum*, which are certainly figures of the same plant in different situations; witness C. B. who quotes both of them to his *arvensis*, as does Morison also.

In gravelly and sandy soils, as Hounslow-heath, Epping, and Windsor forests, this plant is not above six or seven inches high, whence some have termed it *exigua*, but its peculiar smell will always detect it. It is common in corn-fields and shallow waters, and flowers at the latter end of July and in August.

There are two distinct varieties of this plant.

1. Corn Mint with an upright stalk, red, not much branched, growing to the height of two feet, with long, narrow, and almost smooth leaves, and an agreeable smell. Mrs. Blackwell has drawn this variety for her Corn Mint. It grows in shallow waters on sandy heaths.

2. Great Corn Mint with broad, ovate, deep-green leaves; stalk hairy, much branched, and two feet high, and not unpleasant in its smell; the stamens longer than the blossom. It grows in moist meadows frequently.



Mentha praecox

Early Flowering Mint.

13. MENTHA PRÆCOX.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, caule erecto subnudo albido, ramis brevioribus erectis, foliis elliptico-lanceolatis petiolatis serratis glabrioribus, nervis albis, staminibus corolla brevioribus: Calami aromatici odore.

Mentha austriaca, Jacquin?

Habitat ad ripas fluviorum.

Junii floret.

EARLY-FLOWERING MINT.

The stalk of this Mint is upright, of a pale whitish colour, almost smooth, and not much branched; the branches are short, upright, and distant; the joints between the leaves being much longer in this Mint than in many others; the leaves stand on short white footstalks; they are oblong, smooth, serrated, and pointed, the nerves of which are white and simple; the whirls stand in the bosoms of the leaves towards the top of the stalk; the flowers are of a bright pink colour, with stamens shorter than the blossom; the smell of this plant is much like that of the sweet flag.

This Mint has very much the face and habit of Jacquin's *austriaca*, but is much larger, which may proceed from situation.

It grows by the side of the river Avon near Bath, in various places, and blows in the middle of June, which is at least a fortnight or three weeks sooner than any other.



Mentha Agrestis

Field Mint.

T. Robins. Del.

Bath, Pub. by W. Sole. 1797

Hibbert, Sc.

14. MENTHA AGRESTIS.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, caule erecto hirsuto ramoso; foliis petiolatis crispis rugosis serratis villosis subrotundis; staminibus corolla brevioribus; odore aromatico.

Mentha arvensis verticillata folio rotundiore odore aromatico. *R. Syn.* 232.

Mentha xi. *Tourn. Inst.*

Mentha aromatica folio rotundiore. *Hill. B. H. p.* 351.

Mentha arvensis, β. *Hud. F. A. p.* 253.

Habitat in arvis et hortis incultis frequenter.

Julio floret.

14. FIELD MINT.

THE stalk of this Mint is square, upright, hairy, and much branched; the leaves stand on very short footstalks; they are broad, wrinkled, hairy, serrated, almost round, and of a dark-green colour; the clusters of flowers stand in the bosoms of the leaves surrounding the stalk, and are of a bright-red colour; the stamens are shorter than the blossom; the cups of the flowers are hairy, not woolly as in Corn Mint: it has a pleasant aromatick smell.

This Mint grows in corn-fields about Mendip hills, Shepton-Mallet, and Frome, and in neglected gardens in that part of Somersetshire abundantly; and as the Corn Mint is found in the same fields and gardens in common with it, they certainly cannot be the same as some authors contend.

It blows towards the end of July.



Mentha

Gentilis

Cardiac

Mint.

J. Hewlett, Del:

Bath. Pub: by W. Sole. 1797

Hibbert, Sc.

15. MENTHA GENTILIS.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, bracteis longis acuminatis sessilibus, caule erecto ramofo fusco foliis; oblongo-lanceolatis subpetiolatis ferratis glabrioribus, nervis fuscis, staminibus corolla brevioribus; ocymi odore.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, foliis ovatis acutis ferratis, staminibus corolla brevioribus. *Lin. Sp. P. p. 805.*

Mentha hortensis iv. *Fusch.*

Mentha verticillata, minor, acuta, non crispa odore ocimi.

J. B. H. iii. p. 217.

Mentha hortensis verticillata ocimi odore. *C. B. Pin. p. 227.*

Mor. H. O. sect. xi. tab. 7. f. 1.

Romana angustifolia five Mentha cardiaca. *Lob. ico. p. 508.*

Park. p. 31.

Mentha cardiaca. *Ger. em. p. 680.*

Mentha iii. *Tourn. Inst.*

Mentha gentilis. *Hud. F. A. p. 252.*

Habitat in pratis humidis, sed rarius; in fimetis et ruderatis frequenter.

Julio floret. See the figure

15. CARDIAC MINT.

CARDIAC Mint grows about two feet in height; its stalk is upright; branched, of a dark-brown colour and almost smooth; the leaves are smooth, long, narrow, serrated, and acuminate, of a deep green colour; the lower leaves stand on short footstalks, but the upper ones are sessile; the clusters of flowers grow in the bosoms of the leaves towards the top of the stalks and branches; they are very numerous, and the floral leaves being very long and narrow, give it so much the habit of Spear-Mint, that it is often taken for it—and Parkinson himself calls it Spear-Mint, being in his time constantly used for it; and our cottagers in Somersetshire and Wiltshire still retain it in their gardens for the true Spear-Mint, but is very inferior to it as a febrifuge; although as a stomachick and cardiack, I believe it excels it.

The flowers are of a pale pink colour, and the stamens shorter than the blossom.

This plant is very frequent in ditches, and waste places near towns and villages; but a true spontaneous *habitat* I have never had the good luck to stumble on.

It blooms in August.



Mentha

Gracilis

Slender Mint.

Orth. Pub: by W. Lolo. 1797.

Miss J. Smith Del.

Hibbert, Sc:

16. MENTHA GRACILIS.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, verticillis paucioribus ac minoribus, foliis petiolatis ovato-lanceolatis ferratis, subhirsutis, nervis albis pilosis, caule erecto piloso suffruticoso exalbido rubescente subramoso, ramulis brevibus erectis, staminibus corolla brevioribus; odore grato.

Mentha rubra vulgaris. *Hill. B. H. p. 352.*

Habitat in aquosis et ad ripas fluviorum.

Augusto floret.

16. SLENDER MINT.

THIS Mint grows to the height of two feet and more; the stalks are slender, hard, and upright, very little branched, with very small, upright branches, which seldom afford any blossoms; they are at first white, and, by degrees, become of a pale-brown colour; the whirls of flowers are fewer and smaller than in the preceding; the leaves stand on footstalks, are of a long ovate pointed shape, a little hairy and serrated; the nerves are white: it has an agreeable aromatic-minty smell. The stamens are shorter than the blossoms.

It differs from the foregoing in having no smell of Basil, and the floral leaves are broader and stand on footstalks, whereas in the former they are sessile and very narrow, merely bracteals; nor has it the least resemblance of spear-mint, which that has. Moreover, a person laying out a specimen of *gentilis* for drying will not be able to wash off the Basil smell from his hands in haste; on the contrary, this plant leaves a pleasant smell, and is easily washed off.

It grows by the sides of rivers and brooks, but very sparingly. I found this by the side of a brook near Bradford, Wilts, in the year 1772.



Mentha pratensis

meadow Mint.

17. MENTHA PRATENSIS.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, foliis ovalibus obtusis argute-ferratis subpetiolatis rugosis rigidis hirsutis, foliis caulinis dependentibus; caule hirsuto erecto, superne ramoso, inferne simplice, ex pallido-viride fuscescente; verticillis habituoribus ac minoribus, floribus purpureo-cœruleis, staminibus corolla brevioribus; Menthæ piperitæ odore.

Habitat in uliginosis montosis.

Sub finem Augusti floret.

17. MEADOW MINT.

THIS Mint grows from two to three feet in height; its stalk is upright, and branched only towards the top, turning by degrees from pale-green to a dark-brown colour; these branches as well as the main stalk, are full of whirls of flowers, very much resembling those of penny-royal. The leaves are oval; they have short footstalks, are harsh, wrinkled, hairy, and deeply serrated; and what is very peculiar to this mint, the leaves all the way up the stalk to where the branches commence are depending, and hang down close to the stalk; the stamens are shorter than the blossom: it has a strong smell of pepper-mint, and might, with propriety, be called Whirled Pepper-Mint.

It blooms in August.

I found this plant in the year 1789, in wet places in the New Forest, Hants, particularly in a common, (Alderbury common) near the Roe-buck, between Salisbury and Romsey. It has not varied in the least by cultivation.



Mentha rubra ^c

common red Mint.

Bath. Pub. by W. Sole 1797.

Hibbert, Sc.

18. MENTHA RUBRA.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, caulibus herbaceis diffusis subglabris rubris,
foliis ovatis acutis ferratis petiolatis, staminibus corolla brevioribus;
odore grato.

Mentha fusca five vulgaris. *Park. p. 31.*

Ray. Syn. p. 232.

Habitat in aquosis et ad rivulos, sed rarius.

Julio floret.

18. RED MINT.

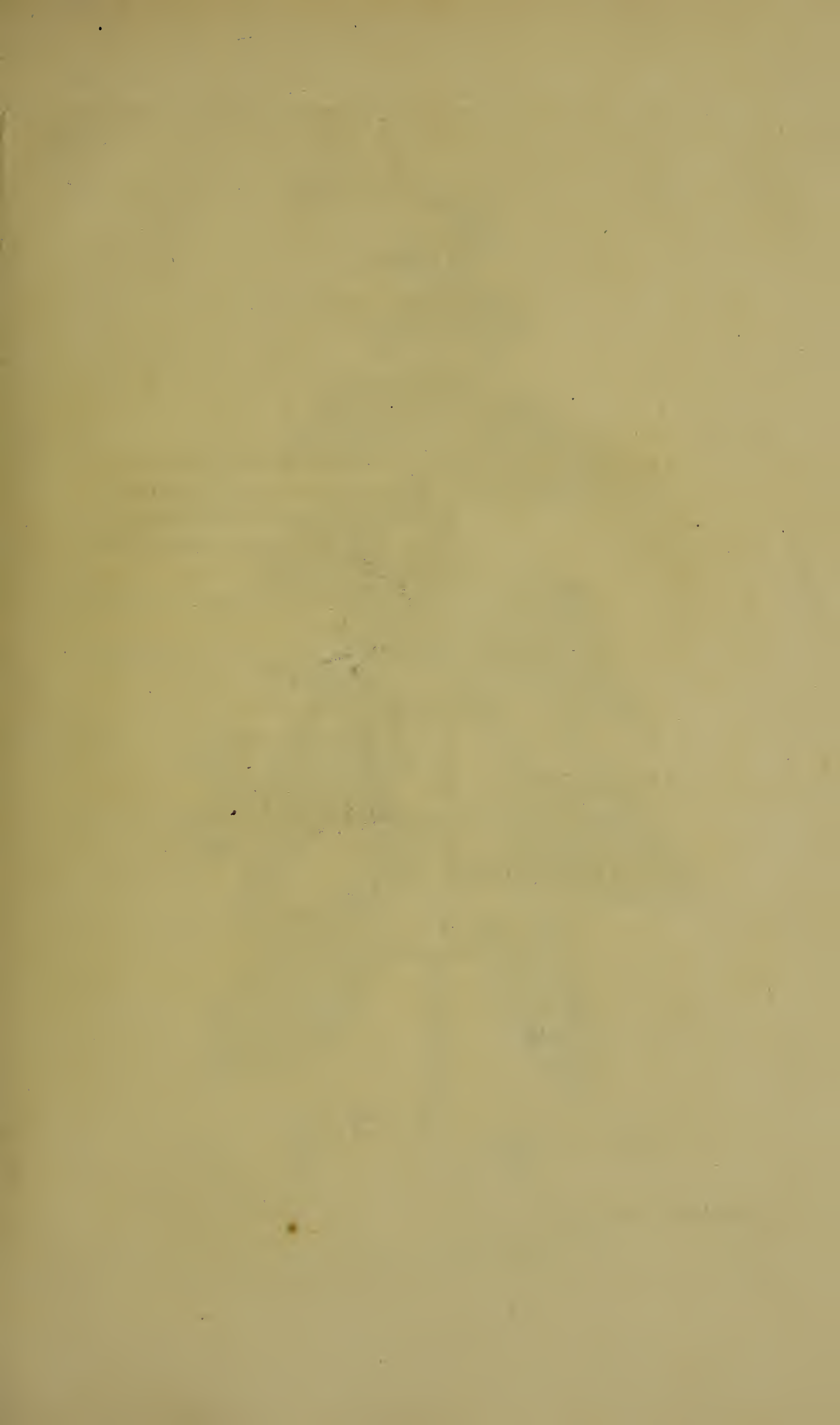
THIS Mint grows about a foot and a half in height; the stalk is of a deep red colour, very much branched, herbaceous, and almost smooth; the leaves stand on short footstalks, they are ovate, serrated, roundish, and pointed; the nerves are red, which, as well as the edges, are a little hairy; the whirls are very numerous both on the main stalk and collateral branches, and the blossoms are large and of a red colour; the stamens are shorter than the blossom: it has an agreeable aromatick minty smell.

“ This is a common mint, but has no smell of basil.” *Mr. S. Dale.*
R. Syn. p. 232.

It grows spontaneous in pools and brooks between Mole and Llanrwst, North-Wales, whence I brought it twenty years ago.

It blooms in July.

Mr. Hudson, in his *Flora Anglica*, has blended this and Nos. 15 and 16 all together as one plant; but as they keep their distinctions after twenty years cultivation, I am induced to think they are three separate plants, and accordingly give them as such.





Mentha variegata

window Mint.

19. MENTHA VARIEGATA.

Mentha verticillis lateralibus pedunculatis, foliis petiolatis ovatis acutis
ferratis variegatis pubescentibus, caule erecto rubro glabriore subra-
mofo, staminibus corolla brevioribus; odore grato.

Mentha arvensis verticillata variegata. *Mor. H. O. sect. xi. t. 7. f. 5. prima.*

Habitat in ruderatis.

Augusto floret.

19. WINDOW MINT.

THIS plant grows from a foot and a half to two feet in height; its stalk is square, red, upright, and not much branched; the leaves stand on footstalks; they are ovate, serrated, pointed, and beautifully variegated with green and gold-coloured stripes; the clusters of flowers are lateral, and are supported by one common long footstalk. It is a favourite plant of our Wiltshire and Somerset cottagers, and many of them cultivate it in pots to ornament their windows, for which purpose it is admirably adapted: I have for this reason called it Window Mint.

The clusters contain but few flowers, and they are small and red; the stamens are shorter than the blossoms: it has an agreeable aromatick smell, and blows in August.

Morrison, who is the only author I have met with that treats of it, gives it as a variety of corn mint; but the eye, at the very first glance, determines it to be different.

It is often met with in suburbs of towns, but I have never found it spontaneous.



M: rivalis

brook

Mint.

20. MENTHA RIVALIS.

Mentha verticillis lateralibus, aliquando pedunculatis, caule erecto ramoso hirsuto rubescente, foliis latis ovatis acuminatis petiolatis argute serratis, superne glabrioribus inferne villosis, nervis robustioribus et ramosis, staminibus corolla longioribus. Menthæ fativæ odore graviore.

Scrophulariæ nodosæ facie.

..... “ Huic similem, hirsutie tamen foliorum discrepantem invenit
 “ *D. Til. Bobart* juxta rivulos quosdam ad latera montis *Shot-*
 “ *over* prope Oxonium. *R. Syn. p. 232. de M. No. iv.*”

β. *Mentha rivalis*—*Calaminthæ facie et odore.*

γ. *Mentha rivalis*—foliis inferioribus rotundioribus, superioribus concavis, caule inferne ramoso superne simplice; staminibus corolla brevioribus. *Serpylli odore.*

δ. *Mentha rivalis*—foliis minoribus rotundioribus incanis, caule ramoso, ramis erectis longioribus villosis rubescentibus. *Mari odore.*

Habitant in rivulis et pratis humidis.

Augusto florent.

20. BROOK MINT.

THIS Mint grows about three feet in height; the stalk is square, upright, branched, and hairy, turning from a dark green to a reddish colour as the summer advances; the leaves stand on footstalks, they are broad, ovate, and pointed, sharply serrated, and are hairy underneath, but almost smooth on the upper sides; the nerves are remarkably strong and branched, turning red towards autumn. The clusters of flowers are lateral and sessile towards the top of the stalks, but the bottom clusters are pedunculated, standing on one common footstalk, as expressed in the plate. The blossoms are of a very pale pink colour, and are shorter than the stamens.

This plant has a coarse, savage aspect, not unlike the common figwort: it has a heavy mixed goatish smell of spear-mint.

This Mint has three varieties.

β Variety the first—Brook-Mint, resembling common calamint in face, habit, and smell.

γ Variety the second—Brook-Mint, with broad round leaves at bottom, and concave ovate leaves on the upper part of the stalks—the stamens shorter than the blossoms; the smell is very pleasant, and like that of lemon-thyme.

δ Variety the third—Brook-Mint, with roundish hoary leaves. The stalk branched, and the branches are upright, and equal in height to the main stalk; they are hairy and red, having a strong volatile smell of marum.

The first of these Mints grows in Locks-brook between Weston and Twerton; the β variety I found in wet meadows near Salisbury; the γ variety grows in King's-Mead near Bath; the δ in ponds at South-Wraxall, Wilts, called Wraxall-Ponds.

They all blow in August.



Mentha sativa

tall red Mint.

Sheppard Del.

Bath, Pub. by W. Sole. 1797.

Ubbert, Sc.

21. MENTHA SATIVA.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, foliis ovatis acutiusculis ferratis, staminibus corolla longioribus. *Lin. Sp. P. p. 805.*

Mentha fativa prima. *Fusch. cum ico.*

Mentha crispa verticillata, folio rotundiore.

J. B. Hist. iii. p. 216. ico. Fusch.

Mentha cruciata. *Lob. icon. p. 507.*

Mentha crispa verticillata. *Math. p. 526. ico.*

_____ *C. B. Pin. p. 227.*

_____ *Park. p. 31. ico. Lob.*

_____ *Mor. H. O. sect. xi. tab. 7. fig. 2.*

_____ *Tourn. Inst. Men. iv.*

_____ *Hill. B. H. p. 352. ico. Lob.*

Mentha fativa rubra. *Ger. em. p. 680. ico. Lob.*

Mentha verticillata. *R. Syn. p. 232. No. iv.*

Mentha fativa. *Hud. F. A. p. 253.*

Habitat juxta rivulos et ad ripas fluviorum.

Septembre floret.

21. TALL RED MINT.

THIS is the most elegant plant of all the Mint tribe, growing from three to four feet in height; its stalk is square, hard, and red, or rather of a dark chefnut colour; upright, except towards the top, where it becomes flowing, as do also the collateral branches, which are not very numerous; the main stalk or leader runs on to a greater height than in all other mints, except the last No. xx. with this difference, the leader in that runs upright and formal—in this, it is flowing, graceful, and easy; the leaves stand on short footstalks, they are rigid, somewhat crisped or curled, ovate, pointed, and deeply serrated all the way down to the very point itself; the nerves of the leaves are red and a little hairy, as are also the edges of the leaves, but the surfaces are smooth. The clusters of flowers sit in the bosoms of the leaves; the flowers are larger than those of any other mint, of a bright red colour, having the stamens longer than the blossom.

John Bauhin's description of it is excellent, as indeed most of his are.

I brought this plant twenty-three years ago from a brook in North-Wales. I also saw it in various waters in Colebrook-Dale, as well as in a wet place between Kidderminster and Bridgenorth, Salops.

It is a late plant, and flowers in September.



Mentha paludosa

fen Mint.

22. MENTHA *PALUDOSA*.

Mentha spica capitato-verticillata; foliis oblongis crenatis petiolatis, lanuginosis, nervis rubris, caule erecto subramoso villosa rubescente, staminibus corolla æquantibus. Odore fragrantissimo.

Mentha balsamita vel latifolia odorata, diutissime durat odor ejus suavissimus. *Mer. Pin. p. 77.*

Habitat in aquosis paludosis.

Septembri floret.

22. FEN MINT.

FEN Mint has an upright, green, hairy stalk, growing about two feet in height; it is very lightly branched, and the branches are short, bearing one small head of flowers at their extremity. The leaves stand on footstalks, they are notched at the edges, are soft and woolly; their nerves are red. The whirls of the flowers fit in the bosoms of the leaves so close together as to resemble a spike; and what is particularly characteristic in this plant, the stalk terminates in a round head of flowers like the water mints, whereas all the other verticillate mints terminate in a neat roseate knot of leaves. The flowers are large, and of a pale purple colour; the stamens just equal with the blossom.

This plant has a most agreeable fragrant smell, resembling sweet marjoram. It is a late plant, and blows in the middle of September.

It grows in Holt-Fen, at Stretham, near Ely; also in a rivulet, by the side of Awdry-caufey, near Hadingham, in the Isle of Ely.



Mentha Pulegium

Pennyroyal.



23. MENTHA PULEGIUM.

Mentha floribus verticillatis, foliis ovatis obtusis subcrenatis, caulibus
subteretibus repentibus, staminibus corolla longioribus.

Lin. Sp. Pl. p. 807.

Mentha Pulegium. *Hud. F. A. p. 254.*

Pulegium. *J. B. H. iii. p. 256.*

Habitat in ericetis humidis.

Septembri floret.

23. PENNY-ROYAL.

THE main stalk of this plant is square, like the rest of the mints, but is not so deeply furrowed: it reclines on the ground, and sends forth numerous small branches, which are almost round; the leaves are ovate, small, obtuse, and crenated. The rundles of flowers fit in the bosoms of the leaves at every joint; they are of a beautiful purple colour, and the stamens are longer than the blossom.

This useful plant is so well known in all families, and treated of by so many authors, that it is needless here to enlarge upon it; but it was necessary to introduce it to perfect my design, that of exhibiting a complete set of Plates of all the British Mints hitherto discovered.

The fine specimen from which this plate was taken, I gathered in the beginning of September, in a pond at the back of the Ball-faced Stag, Epping-Forest, in 1793, where it grows abundantly, and in great luxuriance.



M. piperita sylvestris

wild pepper Mint

Bath Pub. by W. Cole. 1797.

MENTHA SPICATA.

24. MENTHA PIPERITA SYLVESTRIS.

Mentha spicis oblongis latioribus, interruptis, foliis latis ovatis acutis, petiolatis ferratis subhirsutis, nervis albis, caule erecto rigido subramoso, ex albido rubescente, piperis odore gravi, staminibus corolla brevioribus.

Sub finem Septembris floret.

Habitat in aquosis.

SPIKED MINT.

24. SAVAGE PEPPER-MINT.

THIS wild Pepper-Mint grows about three feet in height, (sometimes four.) The stalk is hairy, upright, square, of a whitish-green colour in spring, but becomes reddish towards autumn, and is branched in the manner of the true pepper-mint: its leaves are broad, ovate, pointed, serrated, and a little hairy; the nerves are white; the stamens are shorter than the blossom. It differs from the true pepper-mint in being much larger and coarser, and having a disagreeable goatish smell of pepper-mint: the flowers also are paler, and more mixed with white: its whole aspect is very savage, and cultivation does not improve it.

This is a late plant, and blows about the latter end of September.

It grows in a swampy place at Lyncomb Spa, and various other wet places in the neighbourhood of Bath.

MENTHA CAPITATA.

MENTHA *AQUATICA* TOMENTOSA.

Mentha spicis glomeratis, caule erecto villoso non ramoso, foliis cordato-ovatis serratis petiolatis, incanis, mollioribus, staminibus corolla brevioribus: odore aromatico.

HOARY WATER-MINT.

THIS Mint grows about a foot and half in height; the stalk is upright, very hairy, and not branched, unless quite at the top; its flowers are in very compact heads; the leaves are rather heart-shaped than ovate, and are soft and woolly; the stamens are shorter than the blossom: it has a fine aromatic smell, and is, in its aspect, so totally different from *aquatica minor*, and *major*, that it might with propriety be made a distinct mint.

It grows upon Lansdown, in the spring-head of Locks-brook, (along with *aquatica major* and *pip. officinalis*) as well as in various other elevated swamps about Bath.—It is a late plant, and does not blow before the latter end of September.



CORRIGENDA.

Page 5, line 1, for *spica oblonga*, read *spicis oblongis*; as it feldom occurs with a fingle fpike as Mr. Hudfon describes it.

11, l. penult. for *fluiorum*, r. *fluviorum*.

22, l. 9. for *bint*, r. *mint*.

25, l. ult. put a period before Hal.

31, l. ult. for *Junii*, r. *Junio*.

35, l. 2, omit femicolon after *foliis*, and place it after *fufco*.

☞ In pages 21 and 50, to the quotation from Merret, which is cited to both plants, the mark of Interrogation, which I intended, is omitted—being doubtful, from his indefinite description, which it beft fuited; or whether it means either of them;—it is hoped therefore, that fome Botanift, whom it may fuit to fearch the way between Pemfey and Lewes, Suffex, will foon be able to find the plant and afcertain it.

